

Sketch books of Canada before 1867

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I am searching for personal diaries, travel logs and sketch books; that would include drawings, sketches and watercolours; of Lower and Upper Canada made by the authors while traveling in the country before the Confederation on 1867. In the 17th, 18th and 19th century the people who travelled to the new colony did drawings and sketches of what they saw. I am interested in these actual drawings.

I found some at the Archives of Ontario (Simcoe`s and Langton`s papers) as well as at the National Archives of Canada (Jane Ellice's and Millicent Chaplin's papers) and the Royal Ontario Museum (collection of drawings including canadian scenes) of Toronto. I contacted some British museums and search some databases on-line. I am hoping to get some informations on primary sources, located in England maybe, since the tradition of sketching landscapes in-situ is well-rooted in the British tradition of watercolours.

Reference:

Q: Sketch books of Canada before 1867. In: ArtHist.net, Oct 2, 2002 (accessed Apr 4, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/25269>>.